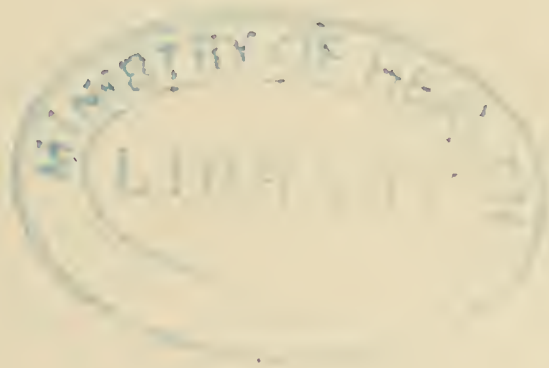


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Rural District Council of Amersham

REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
For the Year 1951



T. P. EVANS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health



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Rural District Council of Amersham

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1951

T. P. EVANS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
AMERSHAM,
Bucks.

June, 1952.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Amersham Rural District Council.*

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1951.

From the point of view of infectious disease the year 1951 was what is loosely termed a "measles year." From the graph on page 13 and the figures and tables on page 12 it will be seen that epidemics of measles occur every other year; that pre-school children (up to 5) are most susceptible to the disease and that the epidemic ended rather abruptly in July. It is also worth mentioning that the number of notifications of measles (865) received during the year constitutes a record for this district.

The Council has continued to devote a good deal of attention to sewerage and sewage disposal problems in its area. Unfortunately, the remarkable rainfall in 1951 has had serious consequences for the Council. The year was reputed to have been the wettest since 1912, and during most of the time the general level of the sub-soil water was about 18 inches only below the surface. This meant that a good deal of work on sewers was delayed or abandoned for the time being, with the result that the completion of the Link-Sewer scheme was postponed many months. Similarly, the commencement of the Bell Lane Housing Estate had to be temporarily deferred because its sewerage depended upon the provision of a water carriage sewage disposal system for part of the Little Chalfont area.

For this Council as for other Housing Authorities the provision of adequate housing accommodation has been a matter of the highest priority. After very careful consideration of the factors concerned, such as the number of applications to the Council for housing accommodation, the number of applications for private building licences in the area, capital investment and finance, and the builders' capacity to build, the Council received the central authority's approval to its proposed five-year programme for housing construction.

I wish to thank the Officers of the Council for their ready co-operation during the year, and also the Sanitary Inspectors and the clerical staff for their assistance. Finally, Sir, may I thank you and your fellow Councillors for their interest in and many kindnesses to this Department.

Your obedient servant,
T. P. EVANS,

Medical Officer of Health.

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health

T. P. Evans, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector

Mr. F. G. Caudery, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I. (Certified Meat and Food Inspector).

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector

Mr. W. E. Jones, M.R.San.I. (Certified Meat and Food Inspector).

Additional Sanitary Inspectors

Mr. P. G. Tremain, M.S.I.A. (Certified Meat and Food Inspector).

Mr. R. Powell, M.S.I.A. (Certified Meat and Food Inspector).

Clerical Staff

Mr. T. Ball (Chief Clerk).

Mrs. M. Murphy.

Mr. L. I. Keen.

Rodent Officer

Mr. H. A. Snapes

(Transferred to Public Health Dept. from Surveyor's Dept., 1st April, 1951).

A General and Vital Statistics

1. *Statistics and Vital Statistics*

Population	...	...	...	...	...	41,750
Area (Acres) of District	...	...	...	...	...	46,233
Number of habitable Houses (per Rate Book)	...	...	...	...	...	12,416
Rateable Value of Area	...	...	...	...	...	£326,054
Sum represented by 1d. Rate	...	...	...	...	...	£1,273 19s. 1d.

Amersham Rural District comprises an area of about 72 square miles. It lies in the South-Eastern portion of the County of Bucks., is situate about 25 miles from London and ranges over two spurs of the Chiltern Hills.

Its characteristic physical features are its well wooded slopes and hills. Its social conditions may be described as those due to agricultural, residential and industrial factors. Until 1939, the increase in population was mainly due to its being a London dormitory, but since then there has been a steady flow of selected light industry into the neighbourhood which has absorbed a high proportion of locally available labour. Its proximity to London has also tended to give rise to the development of several well marked urban-type communities within the rural boundaries.

Despite the recent establishment of selected light industries in the district, several agencies, including the Council itself, have co-operated to preserve large tracts of woodlands for their amenity value. The provisions of the Green Belt Act and similar powers have enabled large areas of the district to be preserved for their amenity value within the Greater London Planning Region.

On the whole therefore it may be said that whilst there is a limit to the possible development, there is increasingly a tendency toward the better balance of the agricultural, industrial and residential factors in the area.

The area of the Amersham Rural District is 46,233 acres.

The Registrar General's estimate of the resident population for 1951 was 41,750.

The number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Book at the end of 1951 was 12,416.

The rateable value of all hereditaments in the District on 31st December was £326,054 and the product of a penny rate for the financial year 1951-52 was £1,273 19s. 1d.

2. *Births*

Birth Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	13.6
Birth rate: England and Wales	...	...	...	15.5

(a) *Live Births:*

Legitimate	...	...	292	253	545
Illegitimate	...	...	12	9	21

(b) *Still Births:*

			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	3	4	7
Illegitimate	...	...	—	—	—

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births	...	12.3
---	-----	------

			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
(c)	Deaths from Puerperal causes	...	...	...	Nil
(d)	Deaths of Infants under one year of age	...	...	...	11
			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
	Legitimate	... ..	6	4	10
	Illegitimate	... ..	1	—	1
(e)	Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age	...	...	...	9
			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
	Legitimate	... ..	5	3	8
	Illegitimate	... ..	1	—	1
<i>Infant Mortality: All Infants per 1,000 live births</i>					
19.4					
<i>England and Wales per 1,000 related births</i>					
29.6					

3. *Deaths*

Death rate per 1,000 population		...	...	...	11.5
Death rate for England and Wales		...	...	...	12.5
<i>Causes of Death</i>			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
1.	Heart Diseases	... ..	44	47	91
2.	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	... ..	9	12	21
3.	Bronchitis	... ..	14	2	16
4.	Pneumonia	... ..	13	16	29
5.	Whooping Cough	... ..	—	1	1
6.	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	2	2	4
7.	Cancer	... ..	34	49	83
8.	Diabetes	... ..	1	4	5
9.	Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	... ..	6	3	9
10.	Other Tuberculosis	... ..	1	—	1
11.	Syphilitic Diseases	... ..	1	1	2
12.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	... ..	1	3	4
13.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	... ..	29	28	57
14.	Coronary disease, angina.	... ..	31	26	57
15.	Influenza	... ..	8	3	11
16.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	... ..	3	1	4
17.	Ulcer of Stomach or duodenum	... ..	2	1	3
18.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	... ..	1	2	3
19.	Hyperplasia of prostate	... ..	7	—	7
20.	Suicide	... ..	3	—	3
21.	Congenital Malformations	... ..	2	1	3
22.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	... ..	20	30	50
23.	Motor vehicle accidents	... ..	3	—	3
24.	All other accidents	... ..	6	7	13
			241	239	480

Birth-Rates, Civilian Death-Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the Year 1951.

(Provisional Figures based on Quarterly Returns)

	England and Wales	126 C.B.'s and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Pop. 25,000-50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administrative County
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population:—				
Births :				
Live Births	15.5	17.3	16.7	17.8
Still „	0.36	0.45	0.38	0.37
Deaths :				
All Causes	12.5	13.4	12.5	13.1
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Whooping Cough	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.31	0.37	0.31	0.38
Influenza	0.38	0.36	0.38	0.23
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (including)				
Polioencephalitis	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00
Pneumonia	0.61	0.65	0.63	0.61
Notifications (Corrected)				
Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.01
Meningococcal infection	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03
Scarlet Fever	1.11	1.20	1.20	1.10
Whooping Cough	3.87	3.62	4.00	3.11
Diphtheria	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.01
Erysipelas	0.14	0.15	0.12	0.15
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Measles	14.07	13.93	14.82	14.64
Pneumonia	0.99	1.04	0.96	0.72
Acute Poliomyelitis (including)				
Polioencephalitis)	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02
Paralytic	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02
Non-Paralytic	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.02
Food-Poisoning	0.13	0.15	0.08	0.23
Rates per 1,000 Live Births				
Deaths				
All causes under 1 year of age	29.6(a)	33.9	27.6	26.4
Enteritis & Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	1.4	1.6	1.0	0.7
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still)				
Notifications (Corrected)				
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	10.66	13.77	8.08	14.90

(See also top of page 8)

Maternal Mortality in England and Wales.

Intermediate List No. and cause	No. of Deaths.	Rates per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births	Rates per Million women aged 15-4
A115 Sepsis of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	70	0.10	0
A116 Abortion with toxæmia	3	0.00	
Other toxæmias of pregnancy and the puerperium	167	0.24	
A117 Haemorrhage of pregnancy and childbirth	91	0.13	4
A118 Abortion without mention of sepsis or toxæmia	37	0.05	
A119 Abortion with sepsis	66	0.09	
A120 Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	125	0.18	7
(a) Per 1,000 related live births			

B Health Services**1. Hospital Services**

The Amersham Rural District is situated within the area of the Oxford Regional Hospital Board. The Board has delegated management responsibilities of hospitals in this area to High Wycombe and District Management Committee which in turn has delegated day to day administration to two "House Committees." One House Committee is responsible for the Amersham General Hospital, the Chesham Hospital and The Stone Maternity Hospital. The other is responsible for the Chalfont and Gerrards Cross Hospital.

2. Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory Service, organized and administered by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health since 1939, continues to be administered on a peace-time basis on behalf of the Ministry of Health, for an initial period of five years after the appointed day of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

The Service is concerned with Bacteriology and Epidemiology in relation to the diagnosis, prevention and control of Infectious Disease.

The Regional Public Health Laboratory is situated at Walton Street, Oxford, and in general, undertakes free of charge, the bacteriological examination of such specimens as sputum, nose and throat swabs, faeces, urine, blood, etc.

The chemical examination of water and sewage effluent is undertaken by the Public Analyst, Southwark Borough Council.

3. Ambulance Facilities**(a) Infectious Disease Ambulances**

Aylesbury Infectious Disease Hospital—One Ambulance

(b) *Ambulance Services*

The Bucks County Council has provided an ambulance service for the whole of the County through the agency of the Order of St. John and the British Red Cross Society. One ambulance is stationed at Amersham.

(c) *Hospital Car Cases*

The Bucks County Council, as the Authority responsible for this service, has made arrangements with the Women's Voluntary Services and the British Red Cross Society for these bodies to act as the Council's agents and to operate the service by the employment of volunteer drivers with private cars, known as the Hospital Car Service. In the Amersham area this service is operated through Mrs. Keeble, Apsley House, High Street, Amersham. Telephone No. Amersham 1419.

4. *Midwifery and Home Nursing Service*

NATURE OF THE ARRANGEMENTS IN THE AREA.

<i>Districts Served</i>	<i>Name, Address and Qualifications of Nurse.</i>	<i>Telephone</i>
Amersham Amersham Common Chesham Bois Coleshill Winchmore Hill	Miss B. Bywater, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N. and Miss M. R. Taylor, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., 7 First Avenue, Amersham.	Amersham 374
Chalfont St. Giles Seer Green Jordans Chorley Wood (Bucks Area)	Miss M. C. Bott, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., Bay Cottage, White Hart La., Chal. St. Giles. *Miss H. E. Carey, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., Beech Cottage, Gorelands Lane, Chalfont St. Giles.	Chal. St. G. 413 Chal. St. G 87
Chalfont St. Peter †Gold Hill.	Miss K. M. Clark, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N. and Miss U. A. Daniels, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N. "Strathlene", Lower Road, Chalfont St. Peter.	Gerr. X 2559
Lee Common The Lee Chartridge Ballinger Swan Bottom	Mrs. V. Woodward, S.C.M., Church Cottage, The Lee, Gt. Missenden.	The Lee 213
Ashley Green Whelpley Hill Ley Hill Lye Green Latimer & Chenies.	*Miss M. Bly, S.R.N., S.C.M., Shenley Cottage, Ley Hill, Chesham.	Chesham 238
Holmer Green Penn Street Penn Forty Green Knotty Green Tylers Green	Miss E. M. Robinson, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., 8 Rose Avenue, Hazlemere, High Wycombe.	Penn 3327

<i>Districts Served</i>	<i>Name, Address and Qualifications of Nurse.</i>	<i>Telephone</i>
‡ Little Hampden Little Kingshill Hyde Heath Little Missenden.	*Miss J. D. MacDonald, S.R.N., Gt. Miss. S.C.M., Q.N., Nurse's Cottage Rignall Road, Gt. Missenden.	71
Hawridge Bellingdon Asheridge Buckland Common. St. Leonards Cholesbury	*Miss D. Heaton S.R.N., Cholesbury S.C.M., Q.N., Nurse's Bungalow, Sandpit Hill, Buckland Common. Nr. Tring, Herts.	269
Prestwood Gt. Kingshill Spurlands End Heath End	*Miss H. M. E. Coulson, Gt. Miss. S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., Chestnut Cottage, Prestwood, Great Missenden.	209

*These Nurses hold the Health Visitors Certificates of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

† These Nurses replaced Miss B. E. Turner and Miss F. M. McNeal on 21st February, 1951.

‡ Miss F. Parker was replaced by Miss J. D. MacDonald, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V., on 15th January, 1951.

The above District Nurses do not attend infectious cases. Those cases that cannot be properly nursed by relatives, or properly isolated, are sent into the Aylesbury Isolation Hospital.

5. *Clinic and Treatment Centres*

There are 13 Infant Welfare Centres—namely at Amersham-on-the-Hill; Whielden Street, Amersham; Chalfont St. Giles; Chalfont St. Peter; Chartridge (Lee Common); Winchmore Hill; Great Missenden; Little Chalfont; Hillside Rd., Chorley Wood; Holmer Green; Tylers Green; Seer Green and Cholesbury.

Immunisation against Diphtheria is carried out at most of the above Infant Welfare Centres.

School Clinics

At Chesham (Germain Street) Ophthalmic, Dental and Orthopaedic (not restricted to children of school age). At Chalfont St. Peter, Ophthalmic and Ear, Nose and Throat at the Cottage Hospital.

Patients are also sent to the Orthopaedic Clinics at Aylesbury and at Chesham.

HOSPITALS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Hospitals

For Non-infectious Diseases:

(a) Within the District:—

Chalfont St. Peter Cottage Hospital.

Beds 36, Men 10, Women 14, Children 5, Private 7.

Massage and Electrical treatment are carried out and there is a fully equipped X-ray apparatus.

There is also a General Hospital at St. Mary's, Whielden Street, Amersham.

(b) Outside the District :—

(i) Chesham Cottage Hospital.

Beds 21, Men 8, Women 7, Children 5, and 1 private ward.

There are facilities for X-ray examinations.

Massage and Electrical treatment in Chesham.

(ii) Royal Bucks County Hospital at Aylesbury.

(iii) The War Memorial Hospital at High Wycombe.

As the District is only about 25 miles from London, patients are frequently sent to one or other of the London Hospitals.

For Infectious Diseases. (Other than Small Pox or Tuberculosis)

Aylesbury Isolation Hospital.

Tuberculosis.

The Berks and Bucks Joint Sanatorium, Peppard Common, Reading.

The Colony for Epileptics at Chalfont St. Peter is also within the District.

National Assistance Act, 1946, Section 47.

During the year information was received concerning an elderly lady living alone in an old cottage the ceiling of which was very dangerous, and there was likelihood of serious consequences to the occupant. On investigation it was ascertained that the lady was aged and infirm and was considered to be in need of care and attention within the meaning of the above Section. A certificate was therefore issued requiring the appropriate Authorities to remove the old lady concerned to one of their Institutions and it was later confirmed that she had been removed to Part III accommodation.

C. Infectious Diseases

1. *Prevalence and Control over Infectious Diseases*

During the year 1,030 Notifications of Infectious Diseases were received.

Twenty-six cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year; 17 of the patients were removed to the Isolation Hospital as conditions at home were unfavourable for isolation. The cases were distributed throughout the district as follows :—

Amersham 10, Great Missenden 4, Little Missenden 4, Chalfont St. Peter 3, Chartridge 2, Penn 1, Seer Green 1 and Chesham Bois 1.

Ninety-eight cases of Whooping Cough were notified during the year as compared with 64 cases the previous year. They were distributed throughout the district as follows :—

Amersham 41, Chalfont St. Peter 29, Great Missenden 7,

Chalfont St. Giles 7, Chesham Bois 4, Chartridge 3, Penn 2, Cholesbury 2, Coleshill 1, Little Missenden 1 and Seer Green 1.

Eight hundred and sixty-five cases of Measles were notified during the year as compared with 198 cases the previous year, as follows:—

January, 114; February, 106; March, 130; April, 139; May, 189; June, 127; July, 31; August, 15; September, 13; October, nil.; November 1; December nil.

The cases were distributed throughout the district as follows:—

Amersham, 338; Chalfont St. Peter, 97; Chalfont St. Giles, 89; Great Missenden, 87; Little Missenden, 48; Chenies, 43; Cholesbury, 29; Chartridge 24; Penn, 24; Chesham Bois, 20; Coleshill, 20; Ashley Green, 15; The Lee, 14; Seer Green, 13; Latimer, 4.

Four cases of Anterior Poliomyelitis were notified during the year, 2 cases at Seer Green, 1 case at Great Missenden, 1 case at Chesham Bois.

There were 19 cases of Pneumonia; 8 cases at Amersham, 4 cases at Little Missenden, 3 cases at Penn, 2 cases at Great Missenden, 1 case at Chesham Bois and 1 case at Coleshill.

Ten cases of Puerperal Pyrexia, 9 cases at Amersham and 1 case at Great Missenden.

One case of Erysipelas at Chalfont St. Peter.

Two cases of Food Poisoning, both at Amersham.

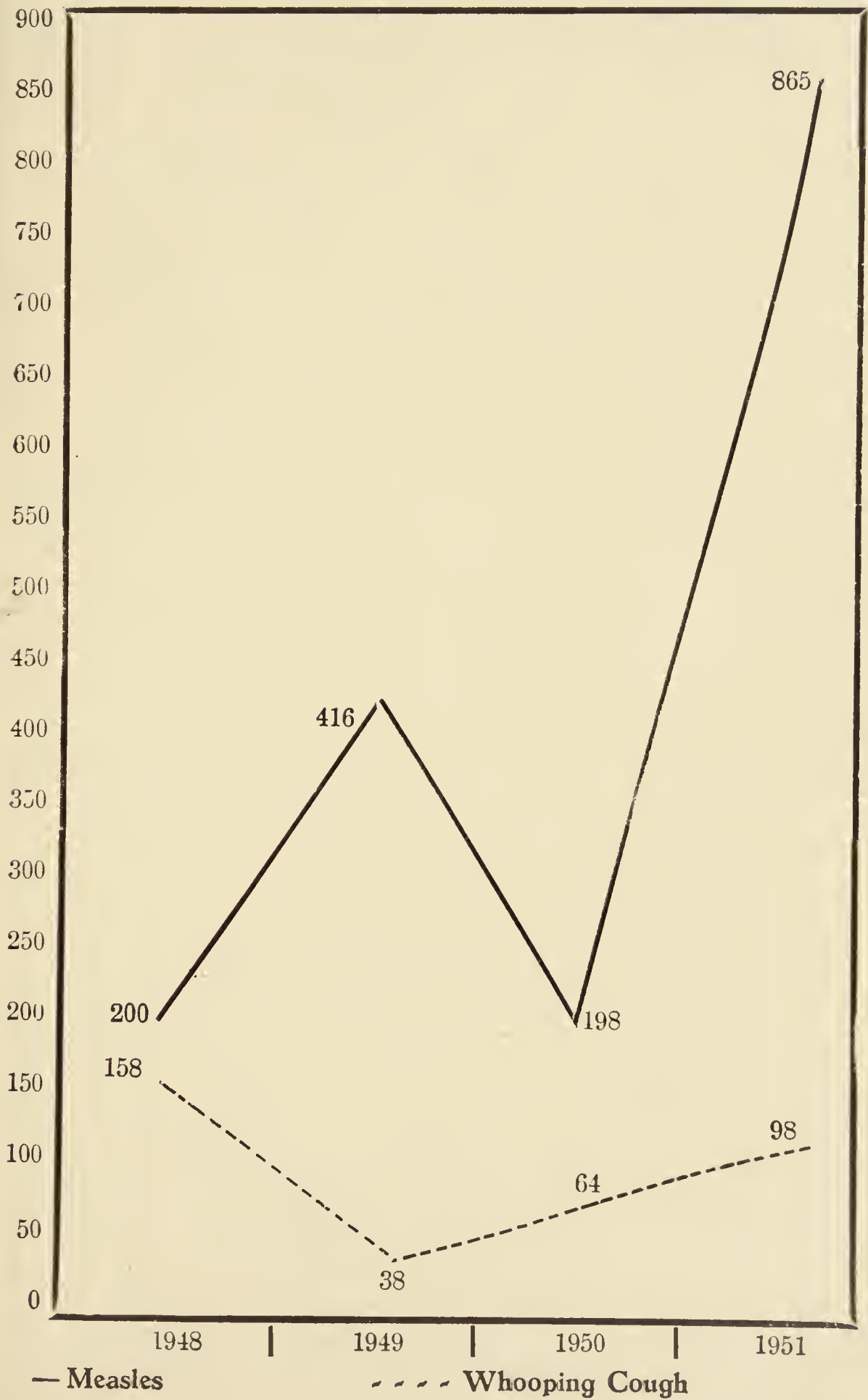
Two cases of Dysentery, 1 case at Ashley Green and 1 case at Chartridge.

One case of Meningococcal Infection at Amersham.

Two cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum, 1 case at Amersham and 1 case at Chartridge.

AGES		MEASLES				Deaths	WHOOPIING COUGH				Deaths
		No. of cases notified.					No. of cases notified.				
		Years.					Years.				
		1948	1949	1950	1951		1948	1949	1950	1951	
Under	1 year	2	9	4	13	—	9	4	1	8	—
	1 year	17	25	14	73	—	11	2	4	3	—
	2 years	17	42	12	95	—	13	6	5	7	—
	3 years	25	38	20	131	—	14	7	7	17	—
	4 years	21	52	19	98	—	20	7	6	11	—
	5 years	100	207	120	398	—	81	10	38	40	—
	10 years	7	28	5	27	—	—	—	—	—	—
	15 years	5	7	1	7	—	5	1	2	7	—
	20 years	6	8	1	17	—	—	—	—	1	—
	25 years	—	—	1	5	—	3	1	—	2	—
	35 years	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	—
	45 years	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
65 years and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
TOTALS		200	416	198	865	—	158	38	64	98	—

NOTIFICATIONS
MEASLES and WHOOPING COUGH
1948—1951.



NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Number of cases of infectious disease notified, number of deaths from these diseases and number of cases removed to hospital during the year 1951.

DISEASES	Cases Notified													Total Cases removed to hospital	Total Deaths.
	Total Cases at all ages	Years													
		Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over		
Scarlet Fever	26	-	-	-	3	18	2	2	-	1	-	-	17	-	
Measles	865	13	73	95	131	98	398	27	7	17	5	-	9	-	
Whooping Cough ...	98	8	3	7	17	11	40	7	1	2	2	-	-	-	
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
Pneumonia	19	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	2	1	2	6	1	-	
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	4	-	11	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	1	-	2	-	
Food Poisoning	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	
Dysentery	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	
Meningococcal	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Puerperal Pyrexia	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	5	2	-	9	-	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	
TOTALS	1030	24	76	102	149	112	461	37	15	96	12	9	45	-	

Tuberculosis

It has not been necessary to take any action under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925 (relating to persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis employed in the Milk Trade), or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to compulsory removal to Hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis).

TUBERCULOSIS

New cases and Mortality during 1951.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
1	2	1	.	1	.	.	.	.
5	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
15	5	3	2	.	.	.	.	.
25	2	5	.	.	.	.	.	.
35	2	3	.	1	.	.	.	.
45	4	.	.	.	2	.	.	.
55	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
65 & over	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	22	12	2	3	2	.	.	.

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR FOR THE YEAR 1951.

D Refuse Collection Service

Throughout the year the service has been under-manned. In about half the area a weekly service has been maintained excepting for one or two weeks during the winter, whilst in the remainder of the area the average period between collections has been about nine days. No additions have been made to the fleet and nine vehicles have been operating throughout the year.

Cesspool Emptying Service

Six vehicles have operated on this service throughout the year, one obsolete vehicle being taken out of commission and not being replaced in view of the main drainage works in the

Chalfonts area and the anticipated reduction in the number of cesspools. Unfortunately, these works did not materialise as quickly as anticipated, and it was necessary to hire a vehicle for a period, as many of the older cesspools in the lower valley areas have been affected by the high level of springs which resulted in frequent emptyings.

Drainage and Sewerage

The areas provided with main drainage are Amersham, Chesham Bois, Little Missenden, part of Great Missenden and the Metropolitan Railway Country Estates' development at Chenies. With the exception of a large area of Chesham Bois Parish which, by arrangement with Chesham U.D. Council is drained to that Council's sewage works at Waterside, and the Estate development at Chenies which is drained through the Chorleywood sewers to the Colne Valley Sewerage Board's Works at Rickmansworth, all these areas are drained to the Council's sewage works at London Road for treatment.

The laying of the Link Sewer from the existing works to Chalfont St. Giles where connection will be made to existing sewers so that the flow may gravitate to the Colne Valley Sewerage Board's Works at Rickmansworth for treatment, has proceeded during the year. The work had to be suspended for several months during the spring due to the high level of the subsoil water which flooded the works, but it is anticipated that the sewers will be in operation early in the spring when the Council's sewage works will be abandoned, although it is likely that the existing storm and settlement tanks will be utilised for a period.

There has been considerable infiltration into the sewers laid pre-war in Chalfont St. Giles and Chalfont St. Peter areas, and remedial works have been carried out in School Lane and on the main road at the bottom of Grassingham Road, Chalfont St. Peter, and in the field near Kings Road, Chalfont St. Giles. The connection of properties to the main drainage has commenced and is making satisfactory progress, a total of 126 properties being connected at the end of the year.

There is also considerable infiltration into the main sewer in the Amersham High Street, and although it has not been possible to remedy this, frequent observations have been made and it is intended to deal with this as soon as the water table permits.

There are, in addition, twenty-one sewage treatment plants serving Council Housing Estates and two plants on the temporary hutted estates.

During the year three plants on housing schemes have been superseded by connection to the main drainage.

The remainder of the district depends in the main upon cess-pool drainage.

Land has been acquired and the first instalment of a sewage works has been constructed at Ashley Green. The post-war Housing Scheme has been connected to this, also the pre-war Housing Scheme where difficulty had been experienced with the cesspool drainage. The works have been sited and arranged so that at some future time they may be extended and sewers laid so that most of the Village of Ashley Green can be connected to these works.

A scheme has been prepared for the drainage of part of Little Chalfont and submitted to the Minister for approval. It is anticipated that these works will be commenced in the spring.

Samples of sewage effluent have been taken periodically throughout the year for analysis.

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1951.

E Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

The work of the Inspectors during the year was again of a general nature. At the beginning of the year it was agreed to concentrate as far as possible on inspections of food-preparing premises, food shops, cafes and restaurants, etc. As a result of these inspections a considerable number of Informal Notices was served but it did not become necessary to serve any Statutory Notices in this connection. The co-operation of the trade was most encouraging.

During the previous year a survey was made of all licensed premises, i.e., inns, public houses, hotels, and in all cases where deficiencies were found, Informal Notices were served. In the main, the owners of the licensed premises have shown a ready response and in many cases substantial improvements have been made to the amenities of these houses. In the Chalfonts area it was agreed to delay the carrying out of these improvements until the sewer became available. During the coming year it should be possible to proceed with the improvement works in this area.

More time is being spent at the two bacon factories at Amer-sham and Prestwood owing to the increase in the number of pigs being slaughtered: there was an increase of nearly four thousand pigs slaughtered at these two premises during the year.

The inspections of houses under the Public Health Acts and the Housing Acts again took up a lot of time. All applicants for Council houses or Civil Building Licences who claim that their present accommodation is overcrowded or insanitary are investigated by the Sanitary Inspectors and are pointed according to the conditions found to exist.

The number of applications for licences to station and use moveable dwellings remains more or less constant and the

Council has continued to give its sympathetic consideration to each individual application. The Council was advised that an adjoining Authority was feeling considerable alarm at the increasing number of caravan dwellers but, after a full investigation of the problem the Officers advised the Council that, in their opinion, there was not at that time any cause for anxiety in this district.

A few applications have been received for registration under the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act which came into operation on the 1st November, 1951.

The responsibility for rodent control was transferred to this Department from the Surveyor's Department on the 1st April and during the year an additional rodent operative was appointed. The Rodent Officer and his two operatives have shown keen interest in their work and are actively engaged over the whole district on the destruction of rats and mice. During the year seven glis-glises were trapped and sent to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Pest Control Division, at Tolworth.

Reference has been made in another section of the report to the construction of the Link Sewer from the existing sewage disposal works at Amersham to the head of the sewer at Chalfont St. Giles and when this work is completed the inspectors will be actively engaged in negotiations with the owners of the properties at Chalfont St. Giles and Chalfont St. Peter for the conversion of pail closets to water closets and in obtaining other improvements in drainage matters generally.

Water Supply

Samples of the water were taken from the public mains of each of the four Statutory Water Undertakings operating in the area, and submitted for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis, and in each case the report of the Analyst was satisfactory. The results of analytical reports are given in the schedule in the appendix.

Details are given below of further extensions of the water main which have been carried out during the year :

Situation.	Parish	Approx. length of Extension in yds.	Size of pipe
1, 2, 3 Pages Lane Cott. Bellingdon.	Chartridge	200	2in.
Twitchells Cottages, Chalfont St. Giles.	Chal. St. Giles	300	4in.
Spurlands End Cottage, Holmer Green	Little Missenden	300 170	4in. 2in.

The total cost to the Council for carrying out the above extensions was £550 0s. 0d.

Negotiations were also commenced for further extensions of the water main to The Vicarage, Little Missenden, and beneath Keepers Lane, Hyde Heath.

Thirty-six samples of water were submitted for bacteriological examination, as follows:—

<i>Source of Supply</i>			
<i>Rainwater</i>	<i>Bore</i>	<i>Well</i>	<i>Public Mains</i>
11	9	7	9

The reports of the Bacteriologist on 20 of the samples were satisfactory, and the reports on the other 16 samples indicated contamination in varying degrees. Appropriate action was taken in these cases.

During the year three Informal Notices to provide a piped supply of water were served and complied with.

Sanitary Inspections of the Area

The following is a summary of Sanitary Inspector's visits during the year:—

<i>Nature of Inspection or Visit</i>	<i>No.</i>
--------------------------------------	------------

GENERAL SANITATION

Water supply (including sampling)	...	...	...	80
Drainage	...	...	...	303
Stables and Piggeries	...	...	...	54
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	2
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	172
Factories and Workplaces	...	...	...	66
Outworkers	...	...	...	59
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	8
Refuse Collection: Refuse Disposal	...	...	...	8
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	4
Smoke Observation	...	...	...	1
Schools	...	...	...	8
Shops Acts	...	...	...	8
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	24
Rag Flock Regulations	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	240

Informal Notices

Served: 125

Complied with: 98

Statutory Notices

Served: 9

Complied with: 6

HOUSING

No. of Houses inspected under Public Health Acts	...	137
Re-visits paid to above Houses	...	400
No. of Houses inspected under Housing Acts	...	49
Re-visits paid to above Houses	...	82
No. of Houses inspected in connection with overcrowding	...	24
Re-visits paid to above Houses	...	1
No. of Houses inspected for Vermin	...	8
Re-visits paid to above Houses	...	15
Visits in connection with Rural Housing Survey	...	22
Miscellaneous	...	557

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Inquiries in cases of Infectious Disease	...	...	...	42
Visits re Disinfection	...	...	...	23
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	19

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Meat Inspection, Visits to Slaughterhouses	...	...	322
Other Premises	...	...	23
Butchers	...	...	80
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	1
Fishmongers and Poulterers	...	...	13
Grocers	...	...	94
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	...	...	4
Cowsheds	...	...	5
Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	27
Ice-Cream Premises	...	...	34
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	57
Restaurants	...	...	13
Bakehouses	...	...	3
Visits in connection with Milk Sampling	...	...	27
Ice-Cream Sampling	...	...	44
Miscellaneous Food Visits	62

GAME ACT, 1831

No. of Game Licences renewed	11
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PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACTS, 1928 and 1936

No. of Licences renewed	104
No. of Licences issued	7
No. of Licences transferred	...	...	...	1
No. of Visits made	...	...	...	37

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

No. of Factories on register at end of year	...	...	126
No. of Visits and Inspections	...	...	66
No. of Defects Found	...	...	3
No. of Defects Remedied	...	...	1

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS
ACT, 1951

No. of Premises registered	2
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SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933

No. of Slaughterman's Licences renewed	3
No. of New Licences issued	5

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919

No. of Premises inspected	...	...	...	...	2,785
No. of Premises treated	...	...	...	...	548
No. of Premises re-visited	...	...	...	...	16
No. of Premises visited for Glis-glis	...	...	...	...	12

F Inspection and Supervision of Food*Milk Supply*

The Sanitary Inspectors continued to obtain and submit routine samples of milk for bacteriological examination, details of which are given below :

<i>Tuberculin Tested</i> (Certified).	<i>Pasteurised.</i>	<i>Tuberculin Tested.</i> (Pasteurised).	<i>Ungraded.</i>
1	5	4	4

and all proved satisfactory.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

During the year 39 licences were issued under the above Regulations, 23 to use the designation Tuberculin Tested, 11 to use the designation Pasteurised and 5 to use the designation Sterilised.

Tuberculosis Order, 1938

During the year two cows were slaughtered under the above Order. In both cases milk from the cows was found to be tuberculous, but was pasteurised before being sold for human consumption. On the investigation by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, one cow was found to have tuberculosis of the left fore-quarter of the udder and the other to have tuberculosis of the right hind quarter.

A total of 31,540 pigs was slaughtered at the Prestwood and Amersham Slaughterhouses and the following table gives details of the number affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and with Tuberculosis only. The figures show an increase in the number of pigs slaughtered but the percentage affected with disease is lower than that for 1950. The total amount of meat and offal condemned at the Slaughterhouses was 13 tons 18 cwt. 25 lbs.

Ice-Cream

Forty-four samples of ice-cream were submitted for bacteriological examination and were graded as follows :

Grade 1	...	...	...	...	10
Grade 2	...	...	...	...	17
Grade 3	...	...	...	...	13
Grade 4	...	...	...	...	4

Meat Inspection at Slaughterhouse.

	Cattle, excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	-	-	-	-	31,540
Number inspected	-	-	-	-	31,540
<u>All diseases except</u>					
<u>Tuberculosis</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	41
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	-	-	-	-	524
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis	-	-	-	-	1.78
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	30
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	638
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	2.11

Other Foodstuffs.

The details of other foodstuffs condemned during the year, are as follows:—

Carcase Meat	...	...	...	...	137 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
Sausages	...	...	...	...	27 "
Bacon	...	...	...	...	263 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Ham	...	...	...	...	146 $\frac{1}{4}$ "
Rabbits	...	...	...	...	60 "
Tripe	...	...	...	...	62 "
Cheese	...	...	...	...	34 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Wet Fish	...	...	...	...	70 "
Herring Roes	...	...	...	...	12 "
Prunes	...	...	...	...	120 "
Powdered Milk	...	...	...	...	95 "
Tea	...	...	...	...	5 "
Milk Whipping Compound	...	...	...	...	156 packets
Processed Cheese	...	...	...	...	6 "
Whipped Cream	...	...	...	...	1 carton
Eggs	...	...	...	...	135 "
Fruit	...	...	...	...	388 jars
Apricots in syrup	...	...	...	...	1 "

Pickles	...	...	...	...	...	4	„
Mayonnaise	...	...	...	...	...	17	„
Jam	...	...	...	...	...	9	„
Lemon Curd	...	...	...	...	...	2	„
Honey	...	...	...	...	...	6	„
Mincemeat	...	...	...	...	...	1	„
Tomato Ketchup	...	...	...	...	...	17	bottles
Sauce	...	...	...	...	...	42	„
Orange Squash	...	...	...	...	...	2	„
Lemon Barley Water	...	...	...	...	...	1	„
Smoked Fish	...	...	...	...	...	3	Stones
Imported Chitterlings	4 tons	9 cwt.	1qr.			23	lbs.

Tinned Goods

Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	1,265	tins
Meat	...	...	...	...	...	1,027	„
Meat and Gravy	...	...	...	...	...	1	„
Corned Beef	...	...	...	...	...	2	„
Cooked Ham	...	...	...	...	...	1	„
Chicken	...	...	...	...	...	20	„
Bacon Rashers	...	...	...	...	...	1	„
Milk (condensed, evaporated, skimmed)	...	...	...	...	...	1,219	„
Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	1,084	„
Jam	...	...	...	...	...	165	„
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	291	„
Soup	...	...	...	...	...	147	„
Marmalade	...	...	...	...	...	1	„
Tomato Puree	...	...	...	...	...	3	„
Tomato Paste	...	...	...	...	...	8	„
Tomato Juice	...	...	...	...	...	63	„
Apricot Pulp	...	...	...	...	...	17	„
Mincemeat	...	...	...	...	...	3	„
Herring Roes	...	...	...	...	...	14	„
Fish Paste	...	...	...	...	...	1	„
Fruit Juice	...	...	...	...	...	7	„
Orange Juice	...	...	...	...	...	14	„
Grapefruit Juice	...	...	...	...	...	1	„
Cocoa	...	...	...	...	...	1	„

Food and Drugs Act, 1938—Section 14.

During the year a total of sixteen premises were registered under the above section, fifteen for the manufacture and/or sale of ice-cream, and one for the manufacture of sausages, making a total in the register of ninety-nine premises registered, eighty-five for the manufacture, sale or storage of ice-cream, eleven for the preparation and manufacture of sausages and preserved foods and three for fish frying.

G Housing

Housing defects were again mainly dealt with under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Four cottages were represented under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, as being unfit for human habitation and not capable of being rendered so fit, and in each case undertakings were given by the owner not to re-let until a scheme of re-conditioning had been accepted by the Council and carried out. In one of these cases the works of re-conditioning and improvement were completed. Thirteen cottages were demolished as a result of informal action and two other cottages were demolished as a result of formal action.

Very limited progress has been made in connection with the Rural Housing Survey owing to more urgent work requiring the attention of the Department.

The following is a summary of defects remedied by Formal and Informal action :

Cesspool accommodation provided	...	...	...	...	3
Drains repaired, altered or renewed	...	...	...	...	33
New W.C. pans provided	...	...	...	...	4
Water butts or tanks repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	2
Larders provided	...	...	...	...	3
Dampness abated :					
1. Repairs to roof	...	...	...	...	4
2. Repairs to rain water pipes	...	...	...	...	3
3. Repairs to rain water guttering	...	...	...	...	13
4. Repairs to external walls	...	...	...	...	5
Provision of paved yard	...	...	...	...	2
Repairs to wall and ceiling plaster	...	...	...	...	23
Repairs to roofs, walls and chimneys	...	...	...	...	16
Repairs to floors	...	...	...	...	15
Repairs to cooking ranges and grates	...	...	...	...	8
Repairs to doors and windows	...	...	...	...	12

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

The Council approved an additional 36 applications for licences to erect, station and use moveable dwellings and the total number of licences current on 31st December, 1951, was 99.

VERMINOUS PREMISES

A number of different types of premises were disinfested during the year, and in most cases a 5 per cent. solution of D.D.T. was used. Gammexane, Smoke Generators, and Thermatox Blocks were also used with considerable success. The above were used against fleas, bed bugs, etc.

1. Inspections for purposes as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	M/c line No.	Number on Register	Number of			M/c line No
			Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	6	10	-	-	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sect. 7 is enforced by Local Authority	2	119	56	3	-	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority + (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	3	-	-	-	-	3
TOTAL		125	66	3	-	

2. Cases in which Defects were Found.

Particulars	M/c line No.	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	M/c line No
		Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector		
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	-	-	-	-	-	4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	-	-	-	-	-	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	6	-	-	-	-	-	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7	-	-	-	-	-	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	-	-	-	-	-	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	9	3	1	-	-	-	9
(a) insufficient	10	-	-	-	-	-	10
(b) Unsuitable or defective	11	-	-	-	-	-	11
(c) Not separate for sexes	12	-	-	-	-	-	12
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)		-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL	60	3	1	-	-	-	60

H Factories Act, 1937

(See Table 25).

PART VIII OF THE ACT
OUT WORK (Sections 110 and 111)

The number of Outworkers notified in accordance with Section 110 (i) (c) was 109. They were engaged in Brush making (47) Wearing Apparel (56) and Textile Weaving (6).

(Signed) T. P. EVANS,

June, 1952.

Medical Officer of Health.

APPENDIX I

Borough of Southwark,

Public Analyst's Department,

Health Services Department,

Walworth Road, S.E.17.

M.60

ANALYSIS OF A SAMPLE OF WATER received from the
AMERSHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.Sample of Water from mains stand pipe. Water supplied
by Bucks Water Board.

Appearance	...	...	...	Slight white sediment
Reaction (pH)	...	...	...	... 7.9
				Parts per million
Free Chlorine	...	...	...	... nil
Total Solids	...	...	...	... 172
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	...	...	... 14.0
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	...	...	... nil
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	...	...	... nil
Nitrate Nitrogen	...	...	...	... 2.5
Nitrite Nitrogen	...	...	...	... nil
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate (3 hrs. @ 98° F.)	...	...	...	... nil
Hardness (Temporary)	...	...	...	... 99
Hardness (Permanent)	...	...	...	... 26
Hardness (Total)	...	...	...	... 125
Metals (Lead, Copper, Zinc)	...	...	...	... not found

Bacteriological Examination

Colonies on agar in 48 hours @ 37° C.	...	2 per ml.
Colonies on agar in 72 hours @ 20° C.	...	2 per. ml.
Coliform bacilli	... ..	Not found in 100 ml.

From these results I am of opinion that this water is of high chemical and bacteriological purity and suitable for drinking and domestic use.

(Signed) D. H. BUTTON,
Public Analyst.

APPENDIX II

Borough of Southwark,

Public Analyst's Department,

Health Services Department,

Walworth Road, S.E.17.

M.50

ANALYSIS OF A SAMPLE OF WATER received from the
AMERSHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Sample of water off rising service main. Water supplied by
Amersham, Beaconsfield & District Water Co.

Appearance	...	...	...	Clear and colourless
Reaction (pH)	...	...	...	...
				7.2
				Parts per million
Free Chlorine	...	...	...	...
Total Solids	...	...	...	...
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	...	...	...
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	...	...	...
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	...	...	...
Nitrate Nitrogen	...	...	...	...
Nitrite Nitrogen	...	...	...	...
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate (3 hrs. @ 98° F.)	...	...	...	...
Hardness (Temporary)	...	...	...	...
Hardness (Permanent)	...	...	...	...
Hardness (Total)	...	...	...	...
Metals (Lead, Copper, Zinc)	...	...	...	...

Bacteriological Examination

Colonies on agar in 48 hours @ 37° C.	...	1 per ml.
Colonies on agar in 72 hours @ 20° C.	...	1 per ml.
Coliform bacilli	...	Not found in 100 ml.

From these results I am of opinion that this water is of
high chemical and bacteriological purity and suitable for
drinking and domestic use.

(Signed) D. H. BUTTON,
Public Analyst.

APPENDIX III

Borough of Southwark,

Public Analyst's Department,

Health Services Department,

Walworth Road, S.E.17.

M.51

ANALYSIS OF A SAMPLE OF WATER received from the
AMERSHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.Sample of water from rising service main. Water supplied
by Gt. Berkhamsted Water Co.

Appearance	...	...	...	Clear and colourless
Reaction (pH)	...	...	...	...
				7.2
				Parts per million
Free Chlorine	...	...	...	...
Total Solids	...	...	...	...
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	...	...	...
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	...	...	...
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	...	...	...
Nitrate Nitrogen	...	...	...	...
Nitrite Nitrogen	...	...	...	...
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate (3 hrs. @ 98° F.)	...	...	...	...
Hardness (Temporary)	...	...	...	...
Hardness (Permanent)	...	...	...	...
Hardness (Total)	...	...	...	...
Metals (Lead, Copper, Zinc)	...	...	...	...
				not found

Bacteriological Examination

Colonies on agar in 48 hours @ 37° C.	...	1 per ml.
Colonies on agar in 72 hours @ 20° C.	...	0 per ml.
Coliform bacilli	...	Not found in 100 ml.

From these results I am of opinion that this water is of high chemical and bacteriological purity and suitable for drinking and domestic use.

(Signed) D. H. BUTTON,
Public Analyst.

APPENDIX IV

Borough of Southwark,

Public Analyst's Department,

Health Services Department,

Walworth Road, S.E.17.

M.52

ANALYSIS OF A SAMPLE OF WATER received from the
AMERSHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Sample of water from rising service main. Water supplied
by Rickmansworth & Uxbridge Valley Water Co.

Appearance	...	...	...	Clear and colourless
Reaction (pH)	...	...	...	7.1
				Parts per million
Free Chlorine	...	...	...	0.01
Total Solids	...	...	...	368
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	...	...	15.0
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	...	...	nil
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	...	...	nil
Nitrate Nitrogen	...	...	...	4.5
Nitrite Nitrogen	...	...	...	nil
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate (3 hrs. @ 98° F.)	...	...	...	nil
Hardness (Temporary)	...	...	...	230
Hardness (Permanent)	...	...	...	42
Hardness (Total)	...	...	...	272
Metals (Lead, Copper, Zinc)	...	...	...	not found

Bacteriological Examination

Colonies on agar in 48 hours @ 37° C.	...	1 per ml.
Colonies on agar in 72 hours @ 20° C.	...	2 per ml.
Coliform bacilli	...	Not found in 100 ml.

From these results I am of opinion that this water is of high
chemical and bacteriological purity and suitable for drinking
and domestic use.

(Signed) D. H. BUTTON,
Public Analyst.

SCHEDULE TO APPENDIX SAMPLES OF WATER COLLECTED DURING THE YEAR

(1) Name of Water Supply.	(2) Water Undertaker	(3) Bacteriological Samples.		(4) Chemical Samples		(5) Remarks
		Date	Result	Date	Result	
Amersham & Beaconsfield Dist. Water Co.	Amersham & Beaconsfield Dist. Water Co.	11/6/51 2/11/51	Satisfactory "	11/6/51 2/11/51	Satisfactory "	
Gt. Berkhamstead Water Co.	Gt. Berkhamstead Water Co.	11/6/51 2/11/51	" "	11/6/51 2/11/51	" "	
Bucks Water Board	Bucks Water Board	20/11/51	"	20/11/51	"	
Rickmansworth & Uxbridge Valley Water Co.	Rickmansworth & Uxbridge Valley Water Co.	11/6/51 2/11/51 20/11/51	" " "	11/6/51 2/11/51 20/11/51	" " "	
Total Samples Collected : 16						

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